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Ardmore, Wednesday, Dec. 26, 1917.

ENGLISH FOR EVERYBODY.

"The next thing that must be done
in the way of world efficiency," says
the Los Angeles Times, "is to get rid
of a lot of languages that are floating
around in the world. It will be the
most difficult feat of all, but it must
be done, just the same."

"This thing of every bunch of people
across a river or a mountain speaking
a different language from their near
neighbors is the biggest handicap the
world has to contend with today. More-
over, this surplus of languages is the
one thing above all others that has
caused misunderstandings, wars, strug-
gles, spoils, hell-raising and hatreds
generally."

As regards the linguistic results of
the present lingual chaos, it is easy to
agree with the writer of this anti-Babel
screed. We can agree, too, with his
conclusion that "everybody in the world
ought to speak 'United States'." Quite
aside from our natural predilection, a
very good case can be made out for
nominating English as the universal
language. It is already the language
of the most important nations in con-
struction. And it has a natural advan-
tage in being made up so largely from
other important languages, so that it
is easy to learn. But whether we can
"put it over" is another question.

The multiplication of tongues may
be a disease, but races and tribes and
nations seem to have an insuperable
fondness for their own particular forms
of disease. With the exception of re-
ligion, language is perhaps the most
durable heritage of human society.
There are some 424 spoken languages
or dialects in the world, and every one
of them is preferred to all others by
those who speak it. Moreover, to bor-
row Kipling's broad-minded verdict con-
cerning tribal language, it may be that
"every single one of them is right."

How are we going to substitute Eng-
lish—or American—for all the other 423
varieties? The answer is, we're not.
"The thing to do," announces the
Times glibly, "is to make yourself as
nearly as possible a master of English,
and then force the other fellows to
speak our language for their own good."
But the Germans tried that, and see
how popular German is now outside of
Germany!

BOOTBLACKING AND DEMOCRACY.

Representative John F. Miller of
Washington, just returned from Europe,
is much worried because he saw there
"strong, young virile Americans whom
we paid to go to France to fight the
battles of civilization, some of them
blackening the shoes of officers and bur-
nishing them. That is destructive of
the morale of the army, and more so,
of course, of an army raised in dem-
ocracy like ours, where every man is
supposed to be as good as his neigh-
bor."

After making these statements before
the house, Mr. Miller was asked by Rep-
resentative Smith of Idaho, "Is it not a
fact that the officers pay the men to do
these things, and that the men
gladly do them?"

"Yes, it is," said Mr. Miller, "but he
should not be permitted to pay them. If
the officer wants a body servant he
should get him from some other source,
and should not be permitted to get a
body servant from among the men
wearing the uniform of the American
army."

This absurd and really undemocratic
point of view would be amazing, if
Americans were in the habit of elect-
ing their congressmen for qualifications
other than oratory. What Mr. Miller
would think of the soldier in the regu-
lar army who tends the baby of the of-
ficer's wife, one trembles to guess.

The trouble with such critics as Mr.
Miller is that they still have the an-
cient superstition that there is such a
thing as a menial job, a job unbe-
coming a free citizen, and only to be
wished upon a slave. In a democracy
there is no such job. In a democracy
all labor is honorable. If by having
his boots polished for him, by the only
polisher available, an officer is given
extra time to attend to his big work
and increase the fighting efficiency of
his command, then blacking boots is
not only honorable but admirable.

Once there was a Teacher who taught
democracy. On a celebrated occasion
he praised a follower for washing his
feet. On another occasion He washed
his follower's feet, and lost no dignity
by doing so. He had much to say about
the dignity of humble service. He was
a true democrat.

TRUCK ROUTES FOR SHORT HAULS

The train of 30 trucks that has re-
cently been trekked to its own wheels
from the Detroit factory to the Atlantic
seaport, where the trucks will be
shipped to France, has created much
interest in the cities along its
route. In connection with this a
lot of interesting facts have come to
light concerning the use of motor trucks
to relieve railroad congestion.

There are a good many interstate
routes for motor service. One of the

longest of these is said to lie between
Akron, O. and Boston, Mass. Trucks
start from each of these terminals
daily. But it's in the short haul that
the motor truck can be of the great-
est immediate service in relieving trans-
portation difficulties. There are suc-
cessful lines operating between Chi-
cago and Gary, Ind., between Chicago
and Elkhart, Ind.; Chicago and Rock-
ford, Ill.; between Boston, New York,
Philadelphia and the many manufac-
turing cities within a 50-mile radius
of each. In California there are said
to be 42 responsible companies oper-
ating fleets of trucks between 60 sepa-
rate and distinct terminals, exclusive
of intermediate points where service is
given.

An article in a recent number of
The Outlook tells some of the things
these trucks haul and some of the
many uses to which motor trucks are
put. Two huge tanks weighing
nearly 5,000 pounds each were delivered
by auto trucks from Philadelphia to
Maywood, N. J., when a chemical com-
pany in the latter city needed the tanks
in a hurry and could not secure rail-
road transportation for them. Another
fleet of trucks successfully delivered a
large shipment of a high explosive at
Easton, Pa., from a chemical company
located 60 miles away in New Jersey.
One truck fleet hauls 2,000 tons of paper
a month. Pet paper has been hauled
by truck for a big rug manufacturer in
the east.

The railroads nearly always damaged
such material slightly. The trucks deliv-
ered it in perfect condition. Turkish
cages valued at \$50,000 were hauled
from Philadelphia to New York. A
butcher and his entire shop equipment
were moved in one evening from South
Philadelphia to a city 45 miles distant
where the development of a big munitions
factory had made a hungry town
spring up almost overnight.

It's an interesting story and a long
one. The day of the motor truck is
barely begun. It is meeting a great
need, and meeting it with increasing
success.

SHRAPNEL

The last alibi of the Texas "shopper"
is gone. They can't even claim that
their package is for sacramental pur-
poses any longer.

The passing of Senator Newlands re-
moves one of the conspicuous members
of the congress for more than a genera-
tion.

"Man failure" has been found to be
the cause of the awful wreck on the
L. & N. railroad a few days ago. After
all, isn't that pretty near the cause of
every catastrophe nowadays?

If it were not for the "fool" things hap-
pening every day, the "Shrapnel" col-
umn would soon disappear.

It is an honest fact that the other
fellow's baby would be as pretty as ours
if it were not for the other poor kid's
flaming hair, or hideous mouth, or, if
his eyes were not too far apart, or some-
thing.

There'll come a time, some day, when
the "common herd" (that's us, neigh-
bors), will learn the difference between
the price merchants pay for their goods
and the price they charge us. Laws
Macey, what a "blow up" there'll be,
and what a coming down of prices.

Publishing houses cannot meet the in-
sistent demand for Bibles these days.
Curious how people in trouble turn
instinctively toward the "four" from
which floweth a "peace that passeth
understanding."

What is "camouflage"? Answer:
Butcher shop "pork" sausage.

Now that the Ukrainians and the
Cossacks have united against the so-
called Russian "government," Prime
Minister Trotsky will probably soon
"trotsky" back to Germany from whence
he "camiesky."

"Allee same!" their Paris disappoint-
ment, the Germans will not spend
Christmas in Venice.

The idea seems to be these days for
everything to "go over the top." Even
dog taxes have been raised in some
places.

There is some comfort in the thought
that if you can live on your old-time
salary through these "high cost of liv-
ing" days you should get into the mil-
lionsaire class if the normal state of af-
fairs ever comes again.

Those of you who want to live long
and be of good cheer till the end of
your days, should treasure down
in your hearts, your childhood mem-
ories of mysterious old Santa Claus.

NOTES ELECTRIC.

In St. Louis County (Mo.) 260 electric
household ranges are in use.
Mazda lamps for home lighting may
be obtained in 10, 15, 20, 25, 40, 60 and
100 watt sizes.

During the year \$4,000,000 worth of
electrical goods were shipped to South
America.

Electrical manufacturing offers
abundant opportunities for blind and
crippled soldiers.

The Schenectady plant for the Gen-
eral Electric Company subscribed for
nearly \$1,500,000 worth of the second
Liberty Loan bonds.

There is one long telephone line in
China, that, from Peking to Canton,
There is local service only in the four
large cities, Peking, Tientsin, Shanghai,
and Canton.

During the war electric signs will be
turned out after 11 p. m. It is estimated
that 25,000 tons of coal are burned
each year to maintain this class of ad-
vertising.

With 1,500,000 h. p. developed and 5,000,
000 h. p. undeveloped, the water powers
of the South offer a splendid field for
the erection of electrochemical and
electro metallurgical plants.

More than 90 per cent of the total
bauxite marketed in this country in 1915
came from Arkansas, and the other 10
per cent came from Georgia, Alabama
and Tennessee. Aluminum metal is
made from bauxite by electrical methods,
which were invented and first carried
out by Americans.

Eight years ago the load represented
by motors in the steel mills of this coun-
try called for a generator capacity of
around 15,000 kw. Today the motor
load approximates 100,000 kw. and the
electric furnace load 75,000 kw. Dur-
ing the past two years the increase in
the use of electrical energy as measured
by the increase in generator ratings is
in the neighborhood of 200 per cent.

Political Observations.

Remember when it was customary for
every sister in the congregation to give
the minister a pair of carpet slippers
for Christmas?

Just why Baltimore, Indianapolis and
Louisville, or indeed any Democratic
stronghold, went Republican in the re-
cent elections is a puzzle the Demo-
cratic politicians have not yet succeeded
in solving.

Democratic and Republican state lead-
ers in Maryland are fixing up their
respective slates for the organization of
the new legislature. The Democrats
will have a majority of one in the
senate, and the Republicans will have
a majority of seven in the house. The
nip-and-tuck political line-up in both
houses indicates a stormy session.

Representative Royal C. Johnson, who
was elected to congress from the Second
South Dakota congressional district in
1914 on the Republican ticket and is
serving his second term, has enlisted as
a private in the regular army. Con-
gressman Johnson opposed the declara-
tion of war with Germany, and voted
against the original war resolution.

After being in session seven days, the
Fourth Georgia congressional district
convention broke a deadlock and nomi-
nated a dark horse on the 25th ballot.
The nominee is William Carter Wright,
who was defeated by Congressman Ad-
ams four years ago, and whom he
will now succeed, a nomination in Geor-
gia being equivalent to an election.

The Texas legislature, which will meet
in special session early in 1918, is ex-
pected to ratify the "dry" amendment to
the federal constitution. A special
session of the Texas legislature to ratify
the amendment is a probability. The
Missouri legislature will meet in spe-
cial session within a short time, but is
not expected to take any action on the
federal "dry" amendment.

Indications are that one of the most
spirited contests to be waged in the
preliminary campaigns will be that for
the Republican nomination for con-
gress in the Twenty-second Ohio dis-
trict. The seat is now occupied by
H. I. Emerson, who wants another term,
but three other prominent Republicans
have a desire to represent the district
in congress, and a four-cornered race is
already on.

It looks now as though in this war
this country would be free, for the first
time, of one of the greatest curses of its
previous wars—political favoritism in
the selection of army officers. No man
yet has furnished any proof that he
has any political pull. Merit and
merit only has determined the selection
of officers so far, and every particle
of available evidence goes to show that
merit and merit only will determine the
selections of officers yet to be made.

It is planned, according to political
gossip in Wisconsin, that when the gen-
eral assembly of the state meets in Janu-
ary a resolution shall be intro-
duced and passed calling on Senator
La Follette to retire from the senate.
It is not expected that this action will
have the slightest effect upon him, but it
is sure to reduce him to a level with
the estimation of the country that will
give him a label which has been at-
tached to no man in public life since
the Civil war.

When Congressman Fitzgerald of
New York called up the emergency ap-
propriation bill the other day his friends
in the house, from which he will retire
within a few days after many years of
honorable service, sprang a complete
surprise on him. A letter from Repub-
lican Leader Mann colonizing him was
read, followed by tributes from Speaker
Clark and Messrs. Gillett, Shirley and
Madden. Record breaking applause fol-
lowed as he began to thank the house
for its favor and to regret his depart-
ure. He was deeply touched. He re-
paid the house by saying at least one
memorable thing no statesman ever
learns except by experience—that it
takes courage to have and use personal
judgment.

Today the Crusader's armor is a uni-
form of khaki. His crossbow and catap-
ult, his spear and battleaxe are rifle,
cannon, railway and airplane. Once
more, at the close of a century, the
Crusades since Edward I, the last of the
Crusades, faced toward Jerusalem, this
time, taken it. Politically, this event is
of prime importance. Together with the
capture of Baghdad by the British, the
capture of the Orient the prestige of
British arms so vitally injured by the
Turks at Gallipoli. It is also a shrewd
thrust at Germany's dream of empire
in the near east.

That Germany should have defeated
the Turkish ally is worth attention.
Two years ago the Germans were on
the offensive against the Suez canal,
and it was the sudden realization of
the British that the desert barrier had
ceased to protect that canal, which
caused this counterstroke. Germany
has her hands full in Europe, and the
Turks know that no conference of the
nations of Christendom will ever yield
Jerusalem to the sultan again. So the
indolent Turk will no longer sit cross-
legged at the door of the holy sepul-
chre, but the Turkish barracks will no
longer hold the entrance to the church
of the Manger at Bethlehem.

Britain's pledge that Jerusalem shall
be for the Jews has sent a thrill of joy
to the myriad hearts of Israel, and the
wandering Jew, who for the first
time in eighteen centuries beholds a
promise of a return to its ancient
home.

To the Christian this triumph over
the Moslem comes as to him who long
ago suffered and struggled for an ideal
only to realize centuries later the mo-
ment of success that he has out-
grown it in the discipline of the suffer-
ing and struggle. For Jerusalem, the
place for which the Jews have la-
mented all these centuries, has become a
great story and song of longing and exile
have glorified it. The whole literature,
poetry, thought, music and art of the
western world rings with that sacred
name: Chaucer, Tasso, the Arthurian
songs, hymns, legends, the political
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of the medieval mystics as the harps
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able steps of Russia, where the lone,
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For, captured or recaptured, Jerusa-
lem has long since ceased to be a place.

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is another headline. And we are in
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Dallas (Texas) News: We reckon the
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may be a long war, and it may be
longer if everybody in this country
doesn't back it with full strength.

Norway plans to make fuel from peat.

From Other

Editorial Pages

KULTUR AND SACRILEGE.

St. Joseph (Mo.) News-Press: The
Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jeru-
salem, which has remained unmolested
herefore during all the centuries of
Moslem occupation, fell victim to Ger-
man commands when the Holy City
was taken by the British. The besiegers,
it will be remembered, faced the
Turks with the most heroic courage
without injuring the city. The German
commanders of the Turkish
troops did not have such a high regard
for holy places and sacred things. A
dispatch from Washington states that
official information has been received,
which tells of Turkish mistreatment of
Christian priests, that the famous treas-
ure of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre,
valued at millions of dollars, were
carried off and that the celebrated
ostensory of brilliant was sent to Berlin.
An ostensory or monstrance is a sacred
vessel in Catholic worship, in which
the consecrated Eucharist is ex-
posed during the benediction, or ana-
tion, therefore, is to the adherents
of that faith the most odious of sacrile-
ge.

But the modern Huns care nothing
for the objects of holiness in any form
of worship, for, according to the same
report, the German general has excited
the indignation of the Mussulmans by
establishing headquarters in the great
mosque in the city of Aleppo.
Had the ark of the Covenant and the
Golden Candelstick of the Jews been
available, they would, in all probability,
be now on their way to Berlin also.

The practice of the modern Hun is
to destroy holiness as he goes. He did
this in Belgium and France. He has
done it at Palestine, and he would re-
peat his performances in Italy if the
opportunity came. And all in the in-
terest of "Kultur."

"JERUSALEM DELIVERED."
Boston Globe: The capture of Jeru-
salem by a Christian army startles
echoes down the corridors of twenty-
five centuries. What Athens is to the
empire of the intellect, what Rome is to
the empire of the physical might, Jeru-
salem is to the empire of the spirit.
The Holy City has been the symbol of
man's religious aspirations through all
the centuries since the Hebrew prophets
celebrated her splendors or bewailed
her moral decay. Five hundred years
before the Christian era, Isaiah might
have visited the co-operative commonwealth
and hymned the dawn of world peace.
Ages ago, amid the wreck of empires,
Jerusalem has stood, the fiery symbol
of man's aspiring spirit.
It is an odd irony that the magnificence
of religious thought which the Jews have
bequeathed to Christendom should have
been rewarded by centuries of persecu-
tion. The west can master the material
realm of the east. The east cannot master
the realm of the spirit. The east goes
to the orient for its religious, even as
the Crusades went for those two amaz-
ing centuries between 1094 and 1299,
when no less than eight waves of
European Christendom spent themselves
in the conquest of the Holy City.

Then it was that Jerusalem became
to the peoples of Christendom the
vision and the ideal, the goal and the
end, the story and the song. Political
the Crusades were a failure. Of all
eight only the first succeeded in cap-
turing the Holy City, and setting up the
Kingdom of Jerusalem for its precarious
existence of ninety years. Once, for
ten years, the German emperor,
Frederick Barbarossa, obtained the city
by diplomacy, after which the Saracen
flood closed over it again for seven
centuries. But, finally, the Crusades
were a liberal education to the middle
ages. The Greeks and Saracens became
the involuntary schoolmasters of the
Franks, Teutons and Britons. In these
crusades, the Holy City and setting the
nation found its nationality by losing its
provincialism.

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form of khaki. His crossbow and catap-
ult, his spear and battleaxe are rifle,
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longer if everybody in this country
doesn't back it with full strength.

Norway plans to make fuel from peat.

She is a dream, an ideal, a mighty
legend which could not perish from the
hearts of Christian men.

THE NORTH SEA MURDERS.

Farmington, Connecticut, Norway. The
sorrow and indignation caused by the
crime committed by German cruisers
near the Shetland Islands have been in-
creased by the way in which the Ger-
man press speaks of what has taken
place. Far from conceding the in-
fantus character of the deed, German
newspapers congratulate their country
on this "victory." They even find oc-
casion to speak of the great courage
and bravery shown by their warriors
in the naval battle. A nation which
can find reason for exultation in this
victory must indeed be poor in occa-
sions to feel proud of its navy! While
we in this country can not help feel-
ing sorry for the conditions which lead
to the necessity of providing only so
inadequately inadequate a defense for a
large convoy like the one in question,
we are well aware that the British
sailors, while few in number, did their
duty to the moment of their death in a
spirit which commands the full and
undivided admiration of the world.
And the crew of the small patrol boat
which, heedless of the shells falling on
all sides of them, yielded what help
was in their power to the drowning
neutral sailors has earned a place in
our gratitude which will not soon be
forgotten.

THE CONTROVERSY OVER PALESTINE.

St. Louis Times: Zionists zealots de-
mand the occupation of Palestine by
the Jews, immediately after it shall
have fallen into British hands, and the
rightful heritage under the protection
promised by the allies to small nations
after the war.

Conservative Zionists are satisfied
for the present with the establishment
of Jewish colonies in the Holy
Land, hoping that ultimately a Jewish
state may be established and that it
may become a center of Judaism, much
as Rome is the center of Catholicism.
The radical element of Reformed
Judaism pools the Jewish state
idea and goes so far as to accuse the
faithful Israelite of disloyalty to the
United States.

It is against this last accusation that
strong protest should be raised by all
who know how deeply patriotic the
great majority of the 6,000,000 or more
Jews in the United States are. They
were found in great numbers at the
front in the Civil war and at this time
thousands of young Hebrews have
answered the country's call and are
ready to sacrifice their lives in the
cause of democracy.

One might as well accuse the Ad-
ventists, the Russellites and other pious
Christians, who believe that enough
Jews to form a nation must have re-
turned to Palestine before the prophe-
cies regarding the coming of Christ
shall be fulfilled, of disloyalty to the
United States.

The devout Jew hopes and prays for
the realization of the Old Testament
prophecies and the Christian for the
fulfillment not only of these but of the
New Testament predictions, and each
is ready to give of his means to pro-
mote this cause. Only the most bigoted
would charge either with disloyalty to
this land of the free.

GOD'S KNIGHTS.

By Margaret Whidemer of the
Vigilantes.

He came to us to say farewell
Young and strong and loving,
Vivid-eyed and laughter-warm,
Glad-hearted in his uniform.
We had not been so close to war
Ever before.

He kissed us then and went away,
And he could stop from coming gay—
That boy-lost against a hell
Of thundered shot and shrieking shell!
He shall not come to us from war
Glad as before.

One thought is all our hiding place—
He and his peers, who laugh to face
Horror and wounding, pain and death.
Hunger and thirst and hard-drawn
breath.

They are God's knights, and ride to take
These for God's sake.

They are God's knights, who gladly ride
Against Thor's scarlet horror-tide.
Their souls and bodies flung to hold
Our world from demon-gods of old—
(He, with his laugh like spring and sun,
He, too, is one!